

many have found it difficult to naturalize because of their difficulty in learning English. This legislation would exempt them from this difficult requirement. Currently this same exemption has been given to those men and their spouses who served with a special unit, operating from a base in Laos in support of the U.S. military. It is time to extend this same exemption to the widows of these men.

This is a great step for the widows who were not covered under the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act. The Hmong have faced insurmountable odds with the English language portion of the citizenship exam. This bill provides a needed form of relief in the citizenship process by exempting the widows from that portion of the exam.

Mr. Speaker, these women are the same spouses of men who sacrificed everything to help us. Many of their husbands gave their lives to save U.S. pilots and other Americans. They fought side-by-side with the U.S. forces and then lost everything. This legislation represents what the Congress can do to provide for the widows of these brave men.

DEBT RELIEF AND RETIREMENT
SECURITY RECONCILIATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no reason for us to be here today debating this bill. Recently the House passed the "Debt Relief Lockbox Reconciliation Act" which was nothing more than an attempt by my Republican colleagues to grandstand on their new conversion to a party that claims to care about reducing the national debt. Today, we are here with another version of a bill that does the same thing. In addition, this bill tack on a so-called pension reform bill that has also already passed the House. The Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act passed the House this summer by a vote of 401-25. It didn't have my support then and it won't have my support today.

So why are we here again debating the same measures we've already debated—and passed? The leadership believes it will help them in the upcoming elections. This debt relief bill is meaningless filler for the GOP agenda. And the pension bill is bad policy. It benefits the wealthy and does nothing to help low-income workers who are most in need of retirement incentives.

Although the pension bill implies that it will help all workers, it serves to help those earning an average income of \$337,800. More than forty-two percent of the pension and IRA tax breaks will go the 5% of the population with the highest incomes—those making over \$134,000 annually and an average income of \$337,000. In sharp contrast, the bottom 60 percent of the population (those making less than \$41,000) would receive less than 5% of these tax benefits.

When the Democrats offered a substitute bill to give low-income workers incentives to save for their retirement, my GOP colleagues

scoffed at the idea claiming that it was too expensive. In other words, it's too expensive to help rank and file workers save for their retirement, but it's completely affordable to help top executives accumulate wealth for their retirement. The Democratic substitute offered incentives to small businesses to sponsor retirement plans for their low-wage and young workers. I supported this substitute bill because it attempted to help those workers who need it most.

If this Congress plans to spend \$55 billion on the wealthy, then we should be able to offer the same pension opportunities to those who currently do not save for retirement. I opposed H.R. 1102 when it came to the floor in July and I oppose the bill before us today.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDI-
CAPPED CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in voicing my support for House Concurrent Resolution 399, which recognizes the federal government's responsibility to educate all handicapped children in our nation. November 29, 2000 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Education for all Handicapped Children's Act passage into law (Public Law 94-142). The act was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The IDEA established the federal government's objective of educating all of America's children, including those with severe disabilities. In 1986, the act was amended to create a preschool grant program for children ages 3 to 5, with disabilities and an early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Currently, IDEA programs serve an estimated 200,000 infants and toddlers, 600,000 preschoolers and 5.4 million children ages 6 through 21 nationwide. The Houston Independent School District provides educational opportunities for about 21,000 students in the City of Houston through this important program.

I would like to recognize the outstanding work that the Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 100 located in the City of Houston has done. This organization represents the teachers who teach these special children in the Houston area. Because of the dedication of administrators, teachers, parents and the students themselves IDEA can be called an "American Success Story."

I would urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this important Act. I would like to also urge the Senate to act on their version of the Full Funding Bill for IDEA, which is currently awaiting action in the Senate. The House version of this bill H.R. 4055, IDEA Full Funding Act, was passed in the House on Representatives on May 3rd of this year.

TRIBUTE TO BENICIA POLICE
CHIEF OTTO GIULIANI UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Benicia Police Chief Otto William Giuliani on the occasion of his retirement after a very busy and successful twenty-eight years of service in law enforcement.

Otto Giuliani began his law enforcement career with the Hayward Police Department, holding numerous positions in his 15-year career there. He was awarded the Hayward Police Department's highest honor, the Medal of Valor, for extraordinary duty on the night of November 29, 1978, when he pried open the door, removed and carried an unconscious man from a wrecked vehicle stuck on the Western Pacific Railroad tracks just as the train struck the vehicle, almost sweeping Officer Giuliani and the victim back into the path of the train. For his action he was recognized by Kiwanis International as Police Officer of the year for 1979 for the California, Nevada and Hawaii Districts, and received the Nathan Hale Award for Heroism.

Otto was a member of the Hayward Kiwanis Club for fifteen years, with eleven years of perfect attendance, he served as president in 1981. He was charter president and two-time distinguished president of the Livermore Kiwanis Club in 1986 and 1987, with seven years of perfect attendance.

He was a member of the Livermore Police Department for seven years, holding the positions of Captain of both the patrol and investigation divisions during separate and concurrent terms, and fulfilling the role of Acting Chief of Police.

Otto is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy (FBI/NA 153rd). He was Chief of Police for the Benicia Police department for eight years during which the department initiated Community Oriented Policing, began a formal School Resource Officer Program dedicating police officers to the campuses of Benicia High School and Benicia Middle School, expanded the DARE program to all fifth grade classes in each public and private school in the city; added three police officers to the department by means of federal and state grants; created a Citizen and Police Partnership Program; began the GREAT program to prevent gang activity from entering Benicia from other cities; conducted Citizen Police Academies; created a Parking Adjudication program which was the first of its kind in the nation for which the department received the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence (the League of California Cities' highest recognition); began a Citizen on Patrol program for which the department received national recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police in the form of the Webber Seavey Award for Excellence in Police Service to the Community, and raised the professional development of the department by successful completion of either the FBI National Academy or California POST Command

19580

College by all management personnel and enrollment or completion of the California POST Supervisory Leadership Institute by first line supervisors.

Chief Giuliani was appointed City Manager/Chief of Police for the City of Benicia in December, 1994, and served in that capacity for six years, serving the longest career in the State of California in the dual role of City Manager/Chief of Police.

Otto is a member of the Benicia Rotary Club and currently serves as President, is an ex-officio member of the Benicia Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Benicia Police Athletic League (PAL).

Chief Giuliani and his wife Jan have been married for twenty-five years and have a set of twins, Mario and Melissa, age 22. Otto is retiring from law enforcement after twenty-eight years of service, but he will continue to serve as the City Manager of Benicia.

It is clear from his record of achievement that Chief Giuliani has never taken his positions of authority for granted and has excelled at his every endeavor. Many communities in our area have been enriched by his efforts. I wish Chief Giuliani a very happy, healthy and much deserved "retirement," and I thank him for his many contributions to law enforcement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall vote No. 487, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on September 25th, I was unavoidably detained in my home district, and therefore, I was unable to be present on the House floor during votes. Had I been here I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 487.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall Nos. 487 and 488. I was unavoidably detained and therefore, could not vote for this legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted, "aye" on rollcall 487 and voted, "aye" on rollcall 488.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SURVIVORS OF STALAG III-C

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the survivors of Stalag III-C in Germany during World War II. These brave men endured hardship that few of us can imagine today. These men were starved nearly to death and subjected to bitterly cold winters in unheated huts. Many men languished there for years before being liberated by a Russian tank convoy. However, their ordeal was not over yet.

Stalag III-C was located near the Polish border in the eastern part of Germany. It was January of 1945 when the men were set free. With a war still raging around them, the men set forth to make it to Allied lines. The men traveled on foot through the snow and frigid winds with little food and clothing not suitable for the trek. It took a month and a half for a majority of the men to reach Odessa, Russia. These hardy men walked a distance of approximately 700 miles. Though their struggle had been long, they had reached freedom.

On the weekend of October 13, a group of survivors from Stalag III-C will gather in Hershey, PA, for a time of remembrance. Jackie Kruper of Lebanon, PA, has organized this event inspired by the journal of her father, Sergeant John E. Kruper, who was interned at the prison camp. Mr. Kruper passed away in 1992.

Let us remember these valiant soldiers in our prayers. Their service to the United States and to democracy around the world shall never be forgotten. I pray that the stories of bravery and survival of these men transcend this one weekend. It is my wish that these stories get passed down through generations, for their sacrifice has truly made this country the land of the free and the brave.

The names of the gentlemen attending the reunion are Kenneth Bargmann, William A. Bonsall, Robert Bell Bradley, William E. Clark, Arley Goodengauf, Maurice J. Markworth, Acie D. Milner, Frank Rosenthal, Kenneth Schaefer, Christopher Schweitzer, Bernard Sterno, Raymond Ulrich, and Mae Hande, who will be attending in place of her departed husband Norman Hande. I know that the United States House of Representatives joins me in saluting these fine men who served their country with honor.

CHANDLER PUMPING PLANT WATER EXCHANGE FEASIBILITY STUDY

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members a copy of the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3986, a bill to

September 26, 2000

provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 20, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3986, a bill to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington.

If you wish further details of this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Rachel Applebaum, who can be reached at 226-2860.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON

(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE, COST
ESTIMATE, SEPTEMBER 20, 2000

(H.R. 3986: A bill to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington, as reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 19, 2000)

SUMMARY

The Kennewick and Columbia Irrigation Districts in Washington use water diverted from the Yakima River. H.R. 3986 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study, prepare an environmental assessment, and acquire right-of-way areas necessary to divert water from the Columbia River rather than the Yakima River to meet the needs of these irrigation districts.

Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3986 would cost \$6 million over the 2001-2003 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary funds. Enacting H.R. 3986 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 3986 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3986 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget funding 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	2	3	0	0

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that the feasibility study and the environmental assessment authorized by the bill would cost \$4 million, and that the acquisition of right-of-way areas for this water diversion project would cost \$2 million.

Current law authorizes the appropriation of \$4 million for an electrification project at the Chandler pumping plant. Although H.R.